



## County of McHenry County Administration

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Barry and Rita Valentine retire after over 58 combined years of Public Service**

WOODSTOCK, IL – On Tuesday, May 2, the McHenry County Board recognized Barry and Rita Valentine for their years of dedication to McHenry County and its Residents. The Valentines have a combined 58 years of public service between them and will retire today (Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>). McHenry County is appreciative of their contributions as employees that has been essential to making McHenry County a safer and more desirable place to live.

Barry Valentine started his employment with McHenry County on March 27, 1979 and was appointed Director of the McHenry County Emergency Management Agency on May 18, 1994. Mr. Valentine was in the first class to receive the Certified Emergency Management (CEM) designation from the National Emergency Management Institute, as well as serving as the Vice-Chairman of the County's E-9-1-1 Board. He has served as Secretary for the McHenry County Mutual Aid Box Alarm Systems Division 5, Secretary of the Illinois Radio Emergency Aid Channel Governing Board, past State Representative for the National Coordination Council on Emergency Management, and past President of the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association.

In addition to serving four years with Emergency Management, Rita Valentine's employment with the McHenry County Department of Health spans 26 years. Since 1985, Rita served as Office Assistant II in the Department's Environmental Health Division whose programs include food protection, private water supply, solid waste management, beach sampling and drinking water analysis, and air quality. Rita's commitment to the highest public health standards and outstanding customer service has been an integral part of the Department's growth and continued success.

"Both Barry and Rita have served with distinction in their respective roles for the County. They have set the standard for what a public service career can be and will truly be missed by all of us here," stated County Board Chairman Ken Koehler.

The Valentines' live in Marengo and plan to continue their involvement in public service.



**Chairman Ken Koehler poses with Rita and Barry Valentine at the May 2 Board meeting. Barry and Rita Valentine have over 58 years combined years of public service.**